

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2713**

ANSWERED ON MONDAY, 17<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2025/PHALGUNA 26, 1946 (SAKA)

**BENAMI TRANSACTIONS IN PENCH TIGER RESERVE**

2713. Dr. Mallu Ravi:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Income Tax Department's Benami Prohibition Unit (BPU) has identified and attached properties linked to Benami transactions in the PENCH Tiger Reserve, Madhya Pradesh; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the outcomes of such actions, including penalties imposed?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF FINANCE

(SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY)

(a) Yes;

(b) Details of attached properties linked to Benami transactions in the PENCH Tiger Reserve, Madhya Pradesh by the Income Tax Department's Benami Prohibition Unit (BPU) and the outcomes thereof –

- (i) Land admeasuring total area of 7.86 hectares (along with a semi-furnished pucca godown constructed thereon), located in Village Kohka, Tehsil Kurai, District Seoni, Madhya Pradesh, within the PENCH Tiger Reserve has been attached.

Provisional attachment order passed u/s 24(4) of PBPT Act, 1988 dated 16.12.2022 by ACIT, Benami Prohibition Unit, Bhopal has been confirmed by the Adjudicating Authority, Mumbai on 20.10.2023. Appeals filed by the benamidar/beneficial owners are pending before the Appellate Tribunal.

- (ii) Land-cum-resort admeasuring total area of 1.35 hectares (along with 1 restaurant, 4 cottages and 20 teak trees constructed/planted thereon), located in Village Avargani Raiyat, Tehsil Kurai, District Seoni, Madhya Pradesh, within the Pench Tiger Reserve has been attached.

Provisional attachment order passed u/s 24(4) of PBPT Act, 1988 dated 22.12.2022 by ACIT, Benami Prohibition Unit, Bhopal has been confirmed by the Adjudicating Authority, Mumbai on 20.10.2023. Appeals filed by the benamidar/beneficial owners are pending before the Appellate Tribunal.

- (iii) Land-cum-resort admeasuring total area of 0.63 hectares, located in Village Turia, Tehsil Kurai, District Seoni, Madhya Pradesh, within the Pench Tiger Reserve has been attached.

Provisional attachment order passed u/s 24(4) of PBPT Act, 1988 dated 17.12.2021 by ACIT, Benami Prohibition Unit, Bhopal has been revoked by the Adjudicating Authority on 14.11.2022 in light of the judgment passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of *Ganpati Dealcom Pvt. Ltd. v/s Union of India* dated 23.08.2022. Consequent to recalling of this judgement by the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 18.10.2024, appeal has been filed before the Appellate Tribunal, New Delhi which is pending before the Tribunal.

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